

AVENGERS vs X-MEN[®]

MARVEL

VS



BENDIS
AARON
CHO
KEITH

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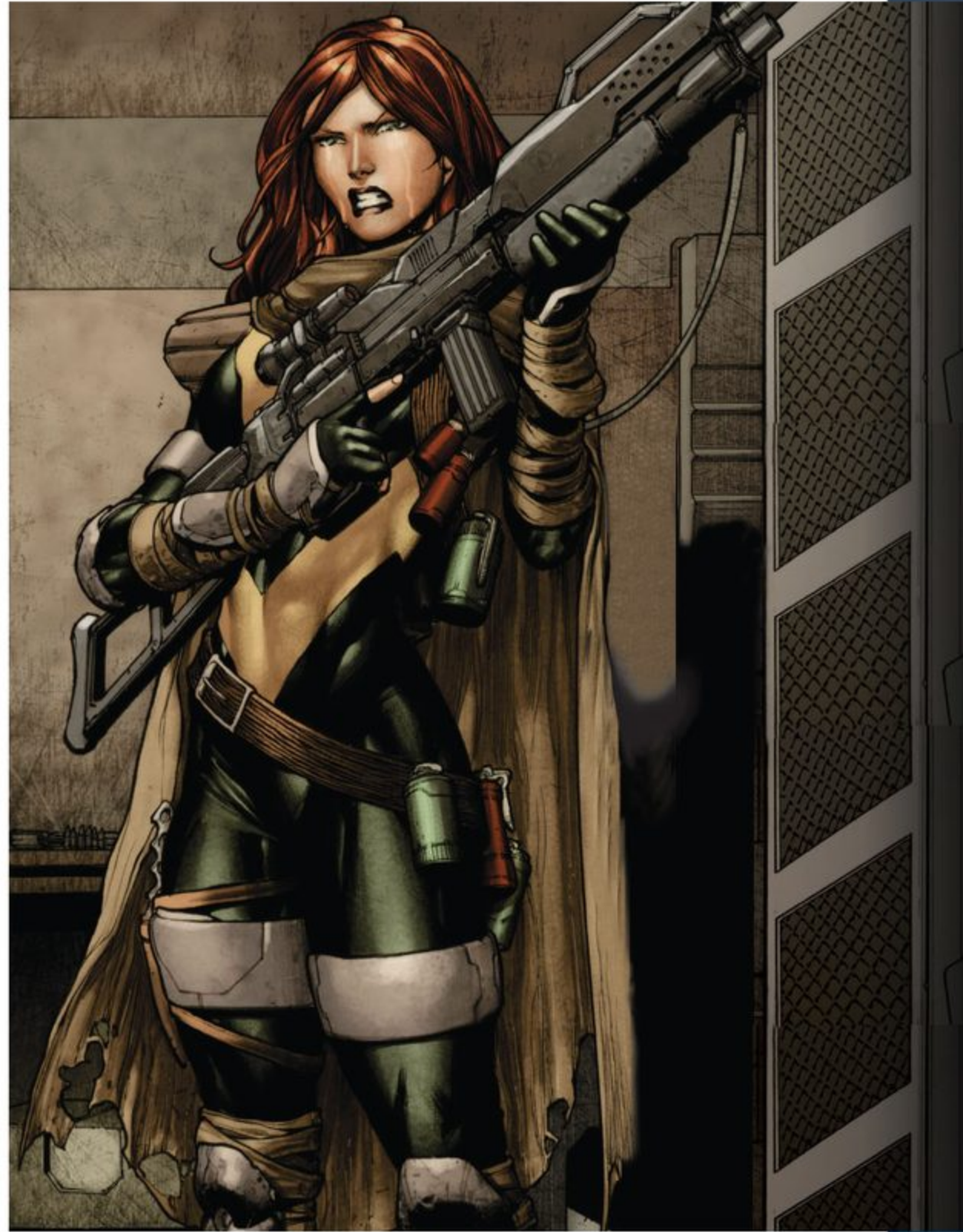


PROLOGUE



SCARLET WITCH AVENGER. DAUGHTER OF MAGNETO.

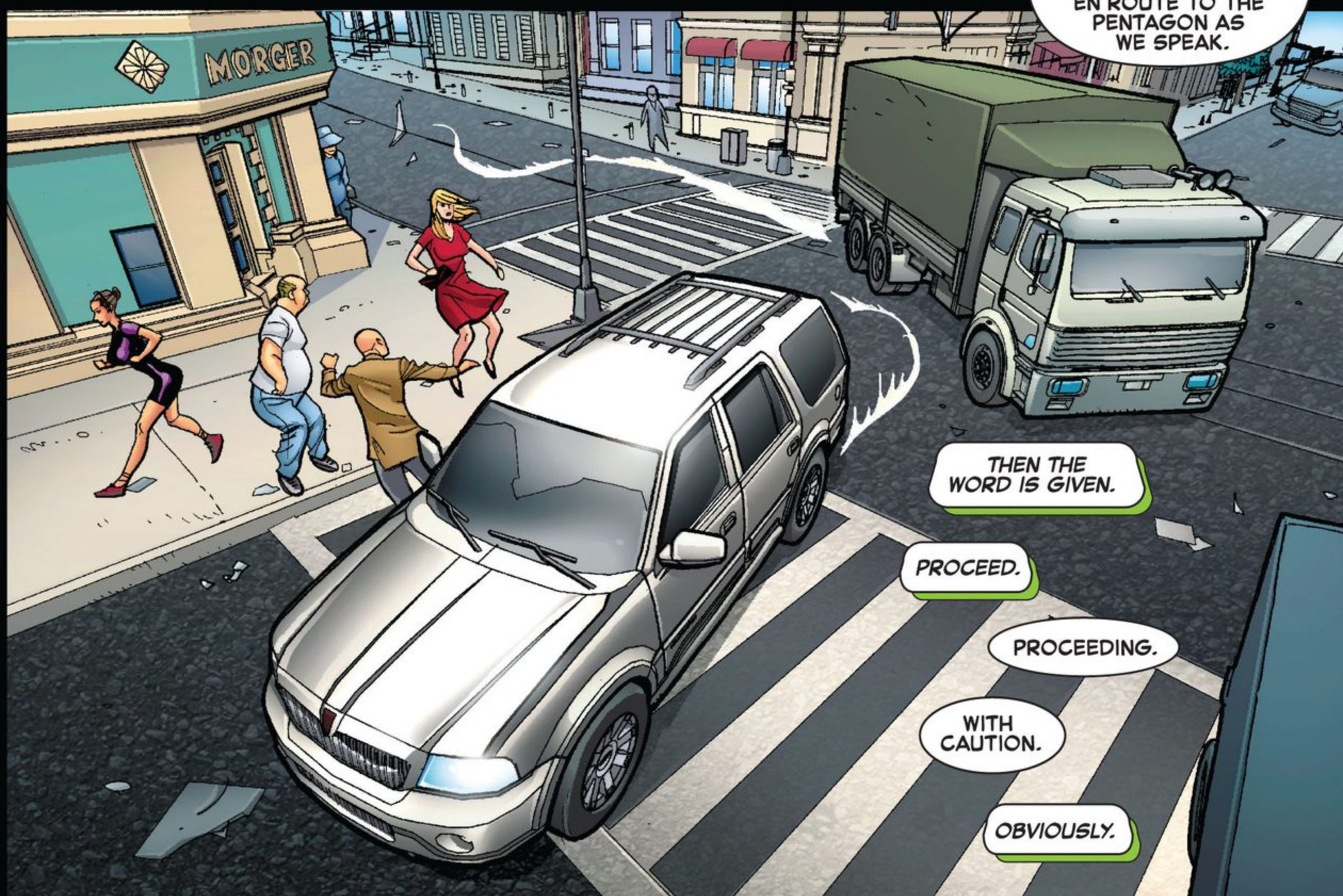
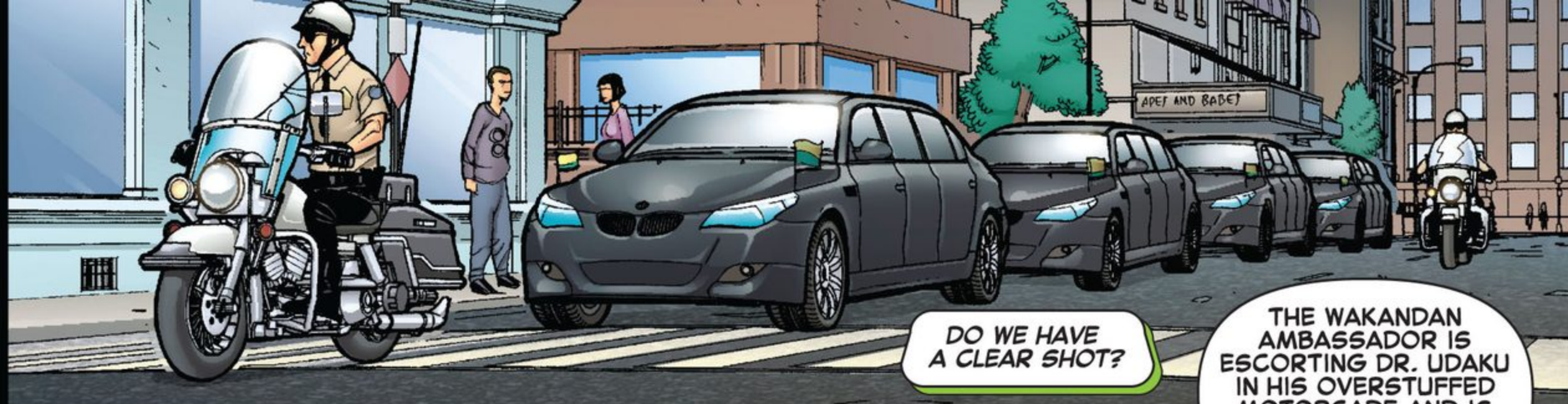
HER REALITY-ALTERING POWER
MADE MUTANTS AN ENDANGERED
SPECIES WITH JUST THREE WORDS.

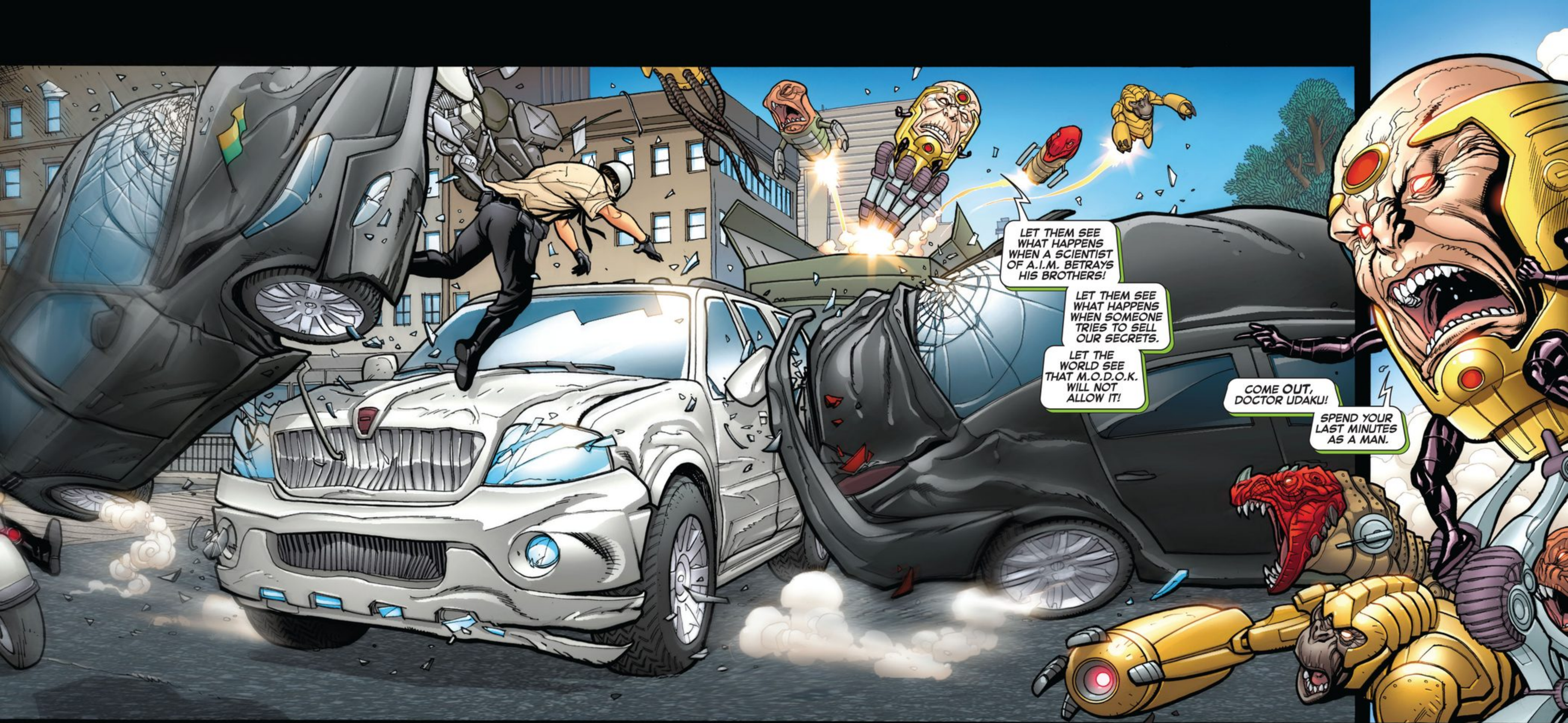


HOPE SUMMERS X-MAN. CALLED THE MUTANT MESSIAH.

SHE'S DESTINED TO SAVE THE
ENTIRE MUTANT RACE...OR PERHAPS
DESTROY THE WORLD.

WRITERS: **BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS** (SCARLET WITCH STORY) & **JASON AARON** (HOPE STORY)
FRANK CHO **JASON KEITH** **CHRIS ELIOPOULOS** **FRANK CHO & JASON KEITH** **STEPHANIE HANS**
ARTIST COLOR ART LETTERER COVER ART VARIANT COVER ART
JOHN DENNING **LAUREN SANKOVITCH** **NICK LOWE** **TOM BREVDORT** **AXEL ALONSO** **JOE QUESADA**
ASSISTANT EDITOR ASSOCIATE EDITOR CONSULTING EDITOR EDITOR EDITOR IN CHIEF CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER
DAN BUCKLEY **ALAN FINE**
PUBLISHER EXECUTIVE PRODUCER



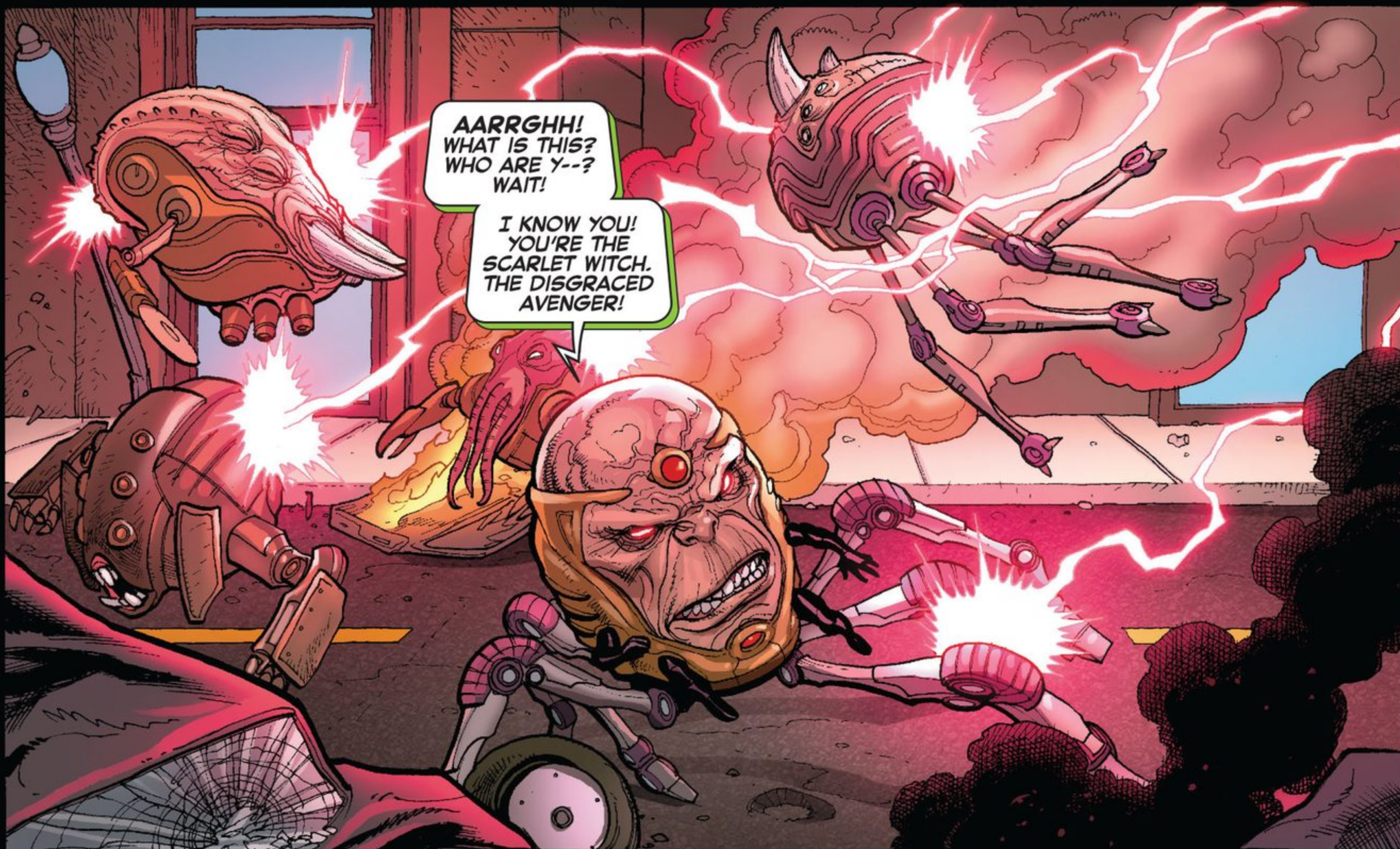




SURRENDER.



OR
I'LL MAKE
YOU.

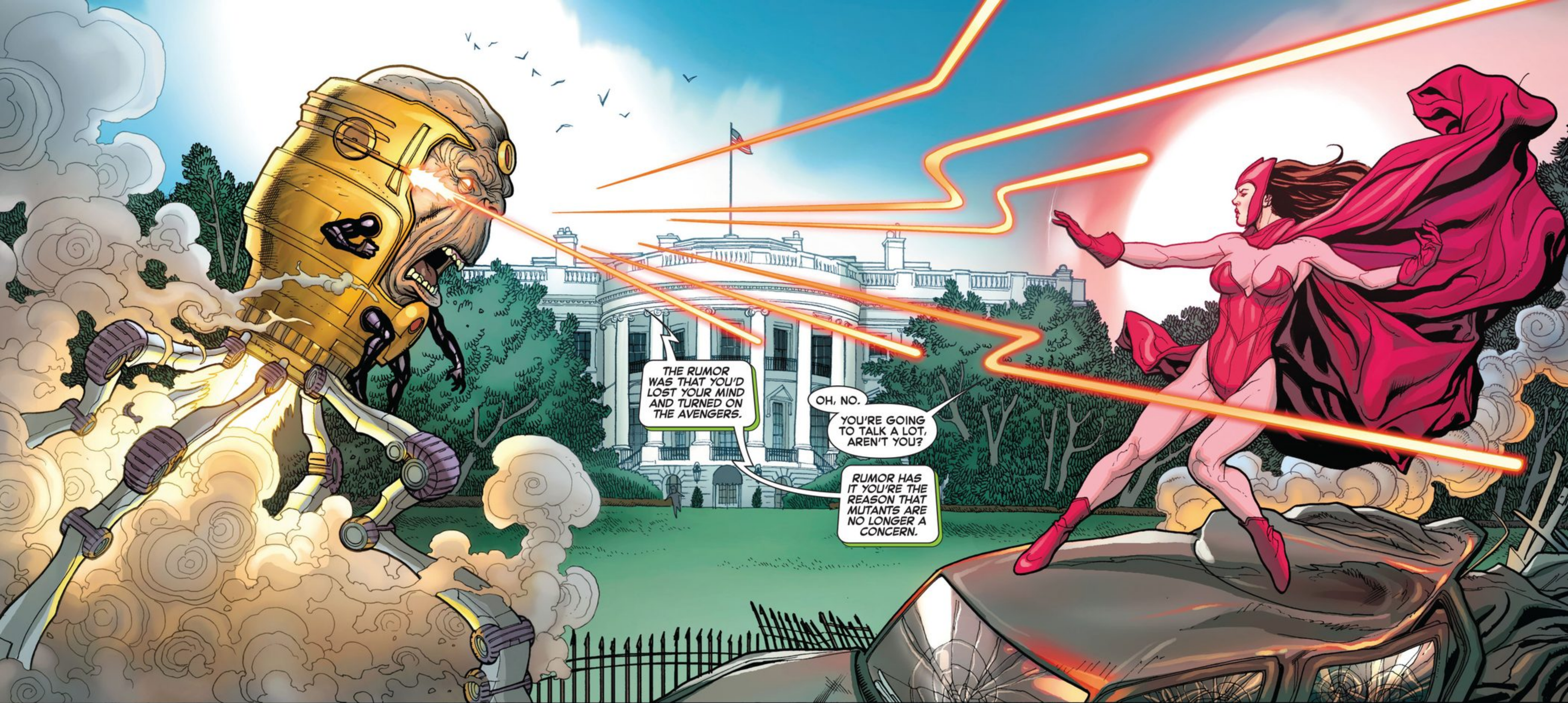


AARRGHH!
WHAT IS THIS?
WHO ARE Y--?
WAIT!

I KNOW YOU!
YOU'RE THE
SCARLET WITCH.
THE DISGRACED
AVENGER!



MY GOODNESS,
THE RUMORS THAT
I HAVE HEARD...



THE RUMOR WAS THAT YOU'D LOST YOUR MIND AND TURNED ON THE AVENGERS.

OH, NO. YOU'RE GOING TO TALK A LOT, AREN'T YOU?

RUMOR HAS IT YOU'RE THE REASON THAT MUTANTS ARE NO LONGER A CONCERN.

PLEASE, I'M BEGGING YOU, IF I WANTED TO HEAR A CRAZY MONOLOGUE I'D MOVE BACK IN WITH MY FATHER.

ATTACK!



MAGNETO'S BABY GIRL NEEDS TO LEARN TO STAY IN HER PLACE!



YOU SHOULD HAVE STAYED HIDDEN UNDER WHICHEVER ROCK YOU CAME OUT FROM.



I WONDER, DEAR, IF THERE'S SOME SORT OF REWARD FOR YOUR HEAD.

IT WOULD SEEM YOU DID MORE TO HURT THE WORLD THAN ANYTHING ANY OF US SO-CALLED--



HHHRAAGH!

END THIS QUICKLY!

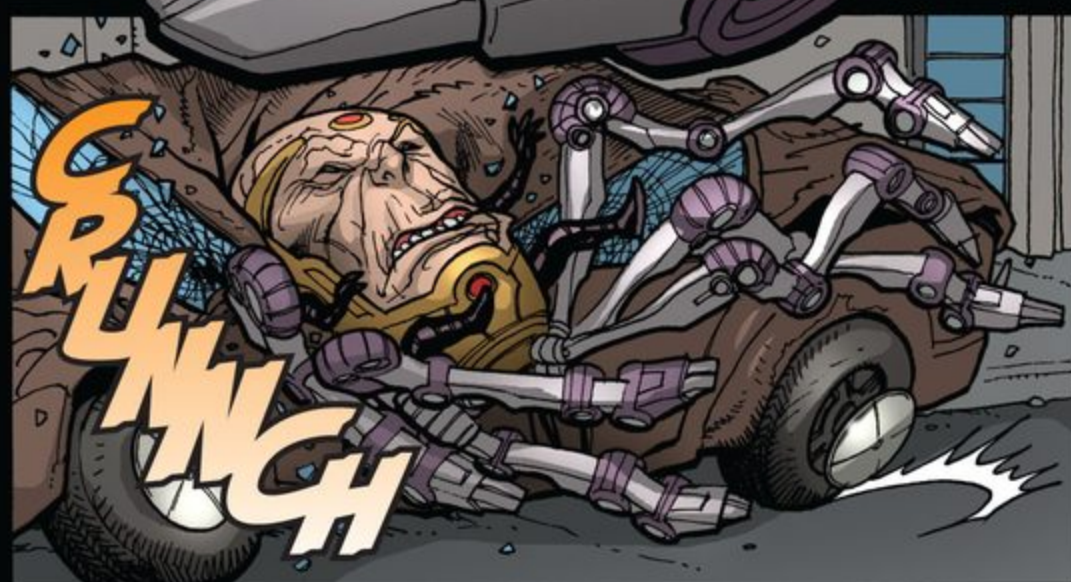


WE DON'T WANT TO HAVE EVERY BROKEN HERO LINING UP TO--



BROKEN.
WHO'S BROKEN?
I'M
A LITTLE
BROKEN.

SMACK



BOOM! I WON'T
LIE TO YOU, LADIES,
I KINDA NEEDED
THIS.



OH, I KNOW. I DON'T
KNOW IF IT'S THE UGGO
A.I.M. SCIENTIST, BEEKEEPER
OUTFITS OR THE ÜBER SMELLY
BIOENGINEERED CREEPY BOTS,
BUT I JUST WANT TO SMASH
THE CRAP OUT OF ALL OF THIS.



I'M SURE
THERE'S A WHOLE
BACKSTORY HERE,
BUT GOOD LORD
DO I NOT EVEN--

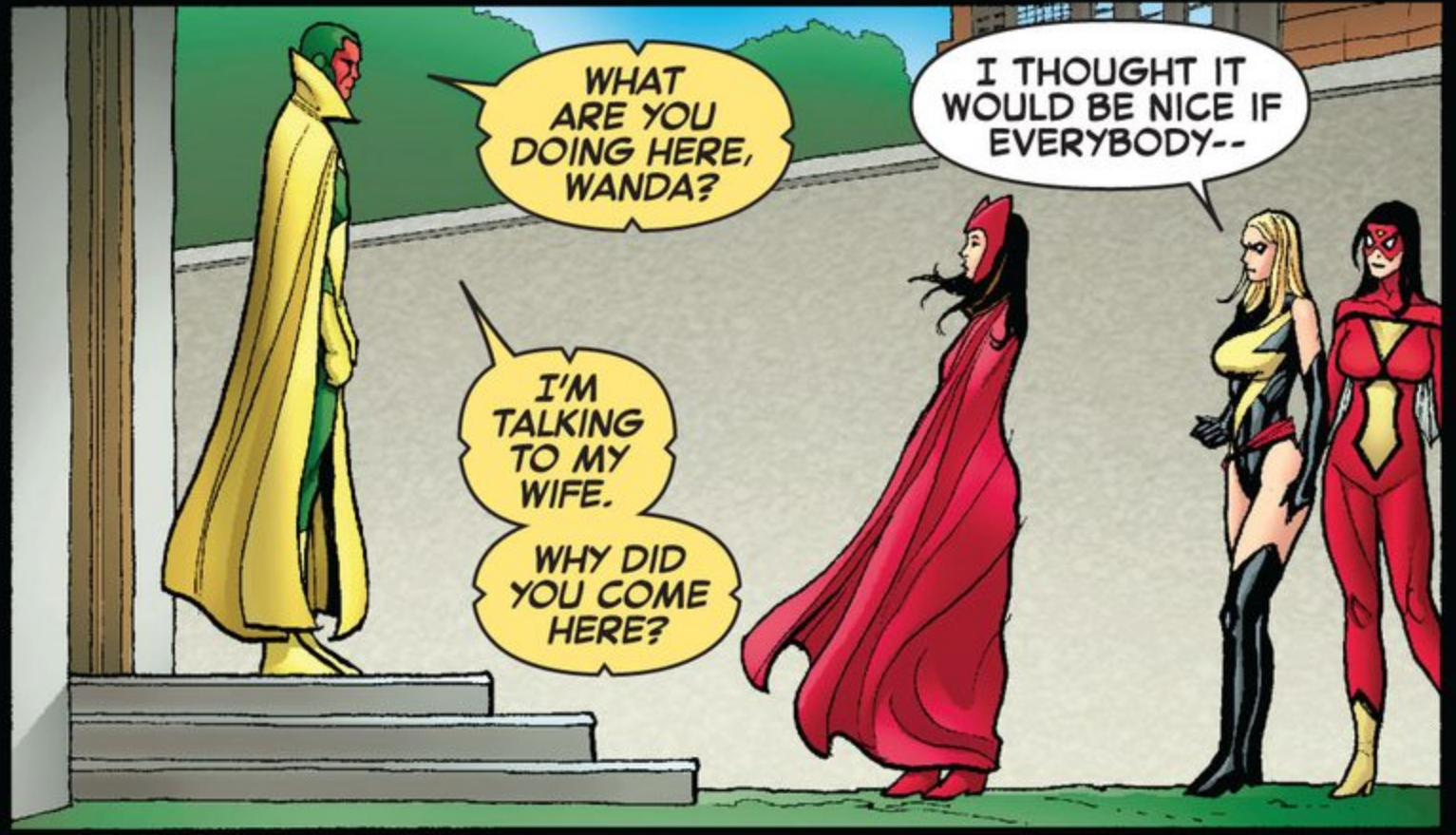


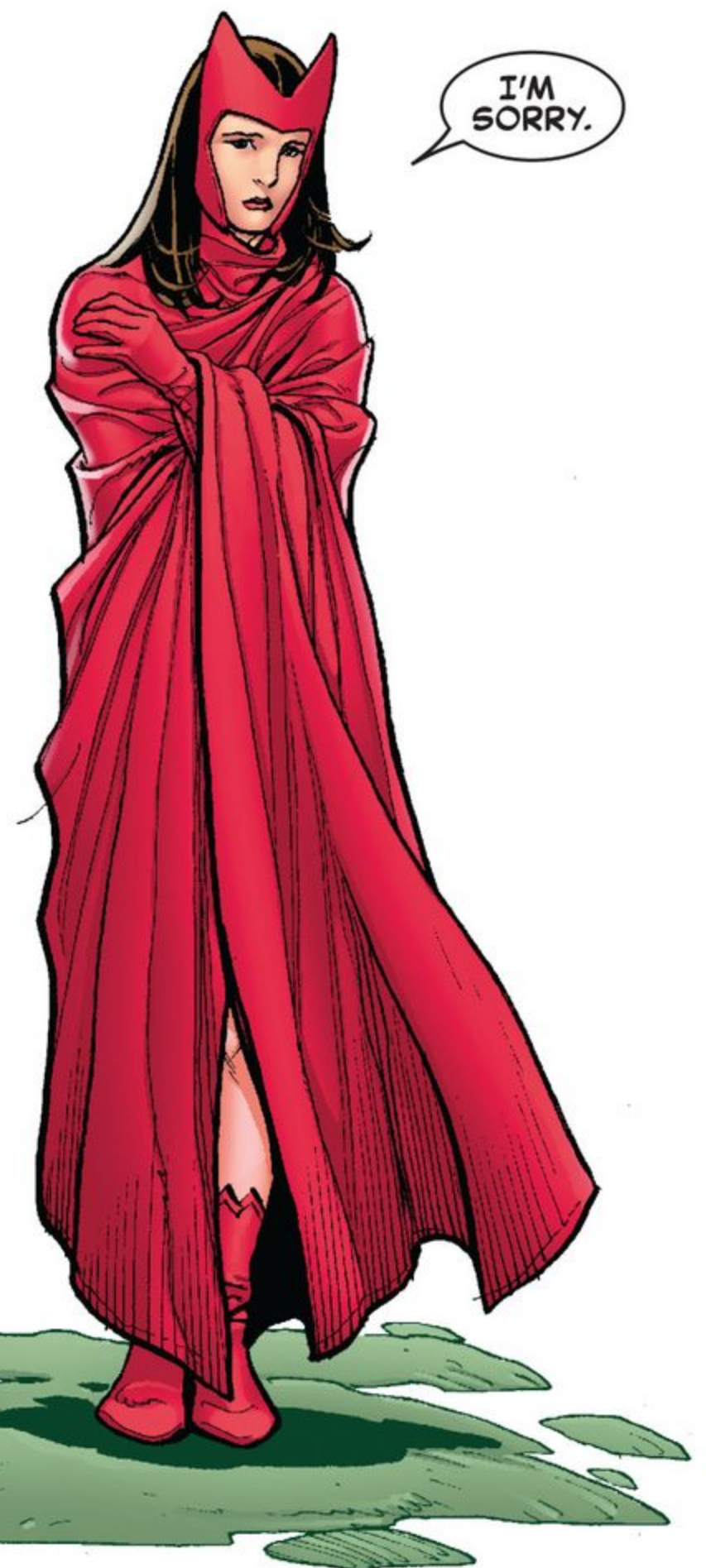
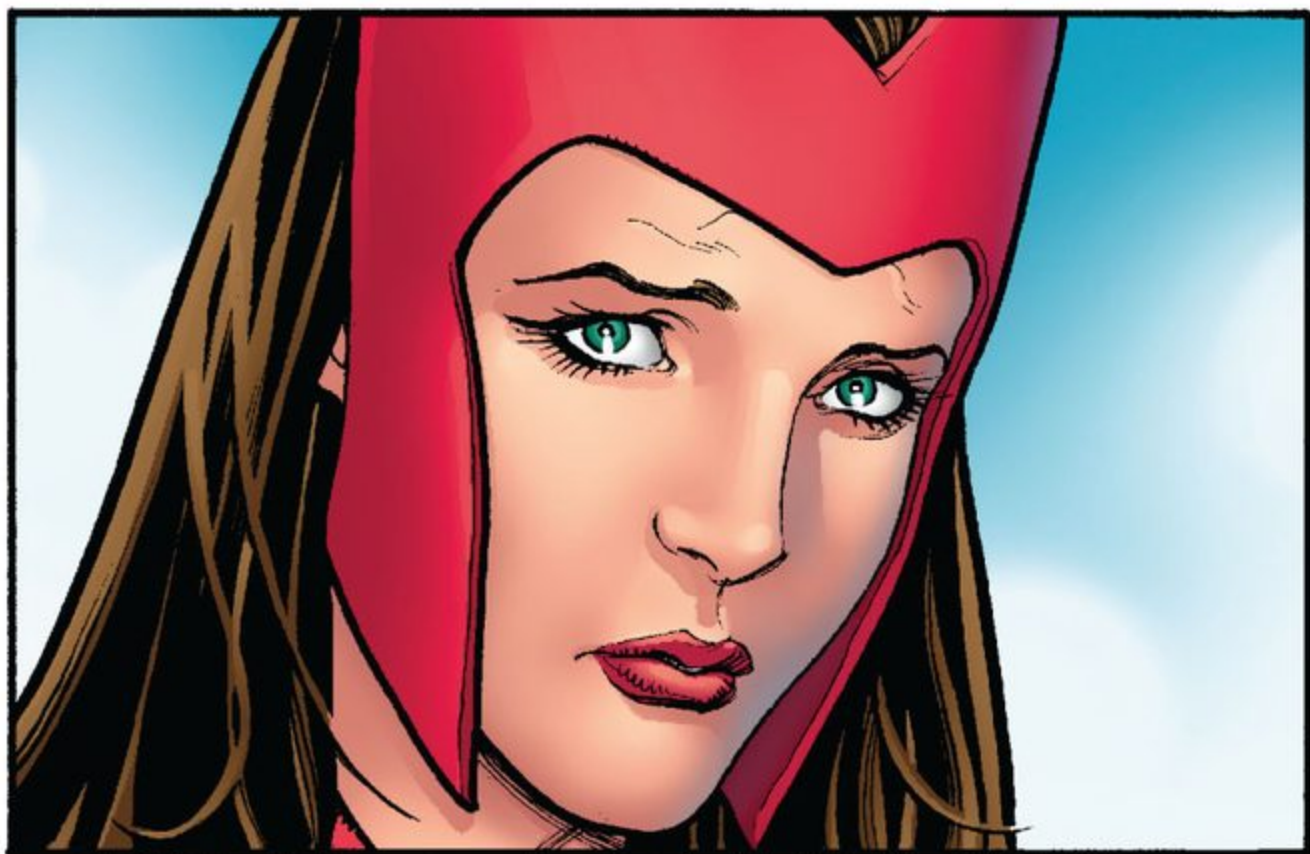
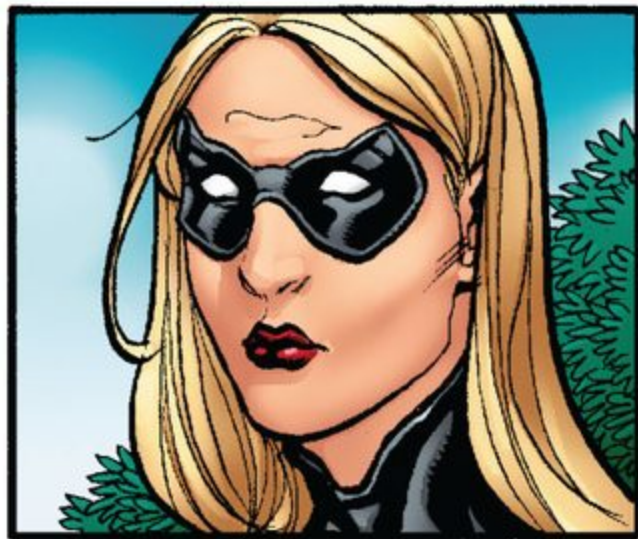
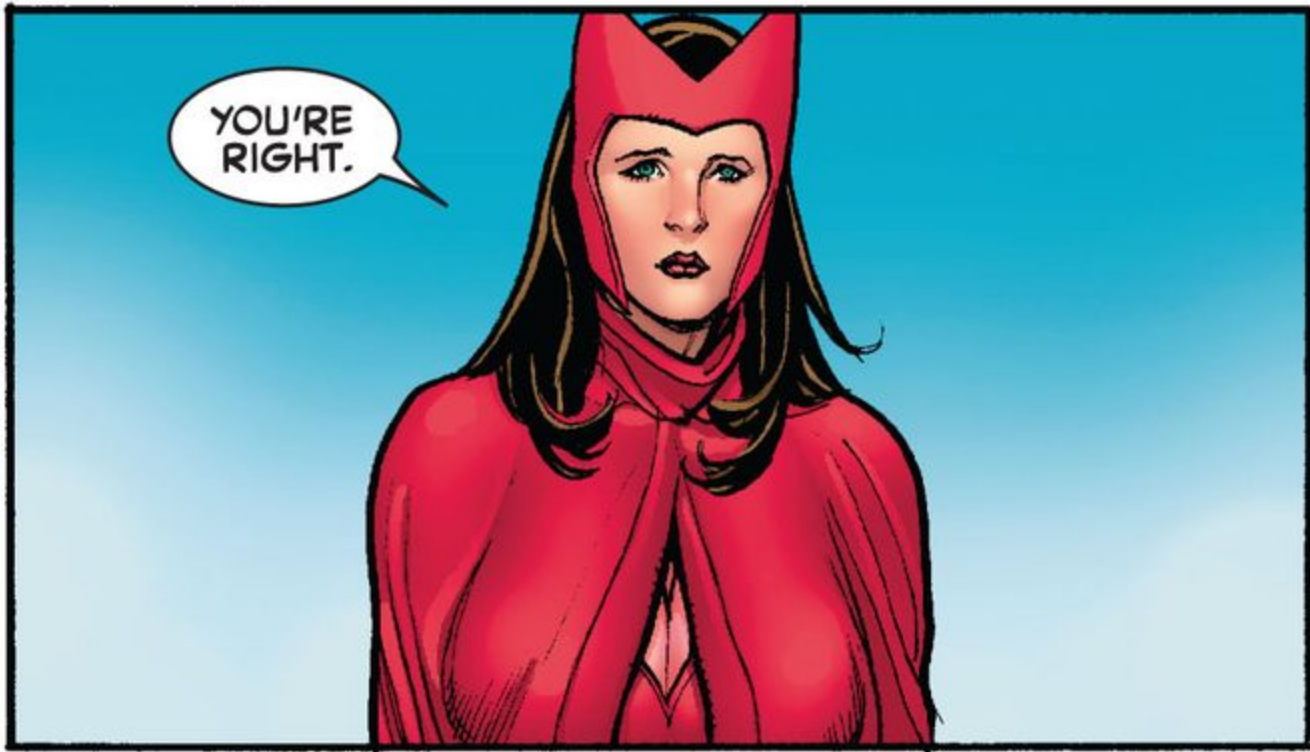




AVENGERS MANSION.









UTOPIA.
ISLAND HOME
OF THE X-MEN.
OFF THE COAST OF
SAN FRANCISCO.



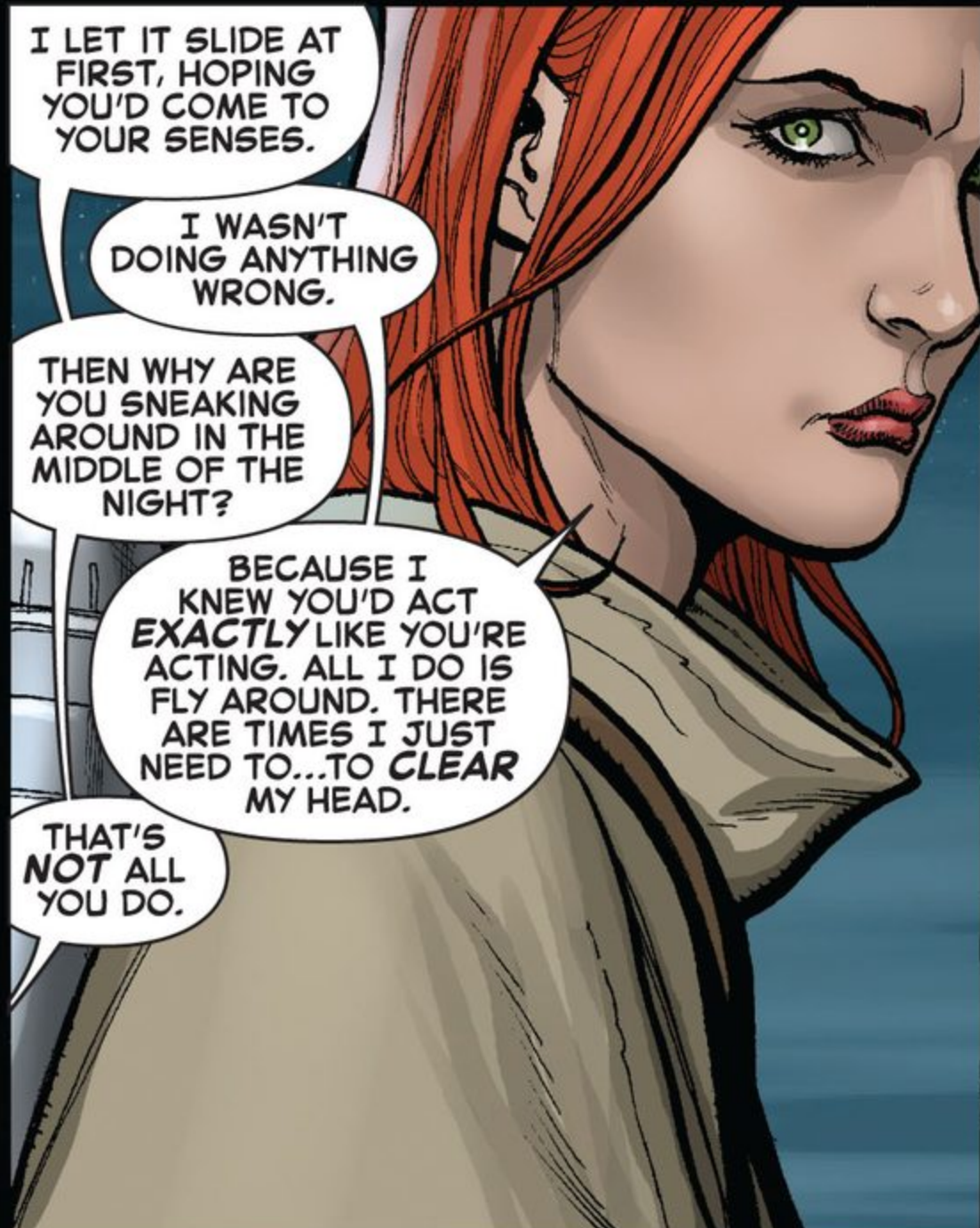


FINE, OKAY, YOU CAN HAVE YOUR STUPID **JETPACK** BACK.

YOU KNOW THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT.

THOUGH YES, I **WOULD** LIKE MY **JETPACK** BACK.

YOU'VE BEEN SNEAKING OUT EVERY NIGHT FOR ALMOST A **WEEK** NOW. DID YOU **REALLY** THINK I WOULDN'T NOTICE?



I LET IT SLIDE AT FIRST, HOPING YOU'D COME TO YOUR SENSES.

I WASN'T DOING ANYTHING WRONG.

THEN WHY ARE YOU SNEAKING AROUND IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT?

BECAUSE I KNEW YOU'D ACT **EXACTLY** LIKE YOU'RE ACTING. ALL I DO IS FLY AROUND. THERE ARE TIMES I JUST NEED TO...TO **CLEAR** MY HEAD.

THAT'S **NOT** ALL YOU DO.



TWO MUGGERS WERE BEATEN HALF TO DEATH IN THE TENDERLOIN LAST NIGHT. THE NIGHT BEFORE THAT, A PAROLED CHILD MOLESTER IN CORONA HEIGHTS HAD HIS LEGS BROKEN. **TELL** ME YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT. OR THAT THERE'S NOT A **POLICE SCANNER** STRAPPED TO YOUR BELT.

PROTECTING A WORLD THAT HATES AND FEARS US. ISN'T THAT OUR JOB?

NOT WHEN IT MEANS NEEDLESSLY PUTTING YOURSELF IN DANGER.



AND HERE I THOUGHT THIS PLACE WAS CALLED UTOPIA. FUNNY NAME FOR A **PRISON**.

NOW YOU'RE JUST BEING **CHILDISH**. YOU'VE NEVER BEEN A PRISONER HERE, HOPE, YOU KNOW THAT. BUT YOU ALSO KNOW HOW **DANGEROUS** IT IS FOR YOU TO BE OUT THERE ON YOUR OWN. YOU'RE TOO BIG A **TARGET**.



YOU'RE TOO IMPORTANT TO EVERYONE HERE. MOST ESPECIALLY **ME**.

I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF. I'M NOT THE DELICATE LITTLE FLOWER YOU SEEM TO THINK I AM.

NO. YOU'RE NOT.



YOU'RE
THE MUTANT
MESSIAH.

YOU'RE THE
ONE WHO BROUGHT
US BACK FROM THE
BRINK OF EXTINCTION.
YOU'RE THE ONE MUTANT
IN ALL THE WORLD THAT
WE CAN'T AFFORD
TO LOSE.



BUT
WHY?

HOPE...

NO, FOR ONCE,
TELL ME THE WHY AND
THE HOW. HOW AM I
DIFFERENT FROM ANY
OTHER MUTANT OUT HERE?
ALL I'VE DONE MY WHOLE
LIFE IS RUN FROM PEOPLE
WHO WERE TRYING TO KILL
ME. AND THEN I TURN
AROUND AND SOMEONE
TELLS ME HOW
AMAZING I AM.

WHY? WHAT
MAKES ME SO
SPECIAL?



EVERYTHING.

THAT'S
NOT AN
ANSWER.

I WANT
THE **TRUTH**.
JUST TELL ME.
PLEASE.



TELL ME
ABOUT THE
PHOENIX.



HOW DID YOU
HEAR ABOUT
THE--

I KNOW MORE
THAN YOU THINK
I DO. I KNOW IT'S
SOME BIG-TIME
COSMIC FIREBIRD.
AND I KNOW IT'S
COMING FOR **ME**.
JUST LIKE IT CAME
YEARS AGO FOR
YOUR WIFE, JEAN.
I KNOW EVERYBODY
GETS CRAZY SCARED
WHENEVER IT'S EVEN
MENTIONED. MOST
ESPECIALLY YOU.



SO...

WOULD YOU
LIKE TO TELL ME
WHAT HAPPENS
WHEN IT **GETS**
HERE?





WELL...
THAT PROBABLY
COULD'VE GONE
BETTER.

Hope's Journal.



Tonight I shot Cyclops with his own eyeblasts. Felt good.

He just doesn't get it.

I spent 15 years of my life on the run. Does Scott now expect me to just sit in a corner and wait for him to tell me what to do?

I'm tired of waiting. Tired of being left in the dark.



Everybody always tells me I'm special. I'm this, I'm that.



Sometimes I have no idea who or what the hell I am.



WHOOPS. MUSTA SLIPPED.

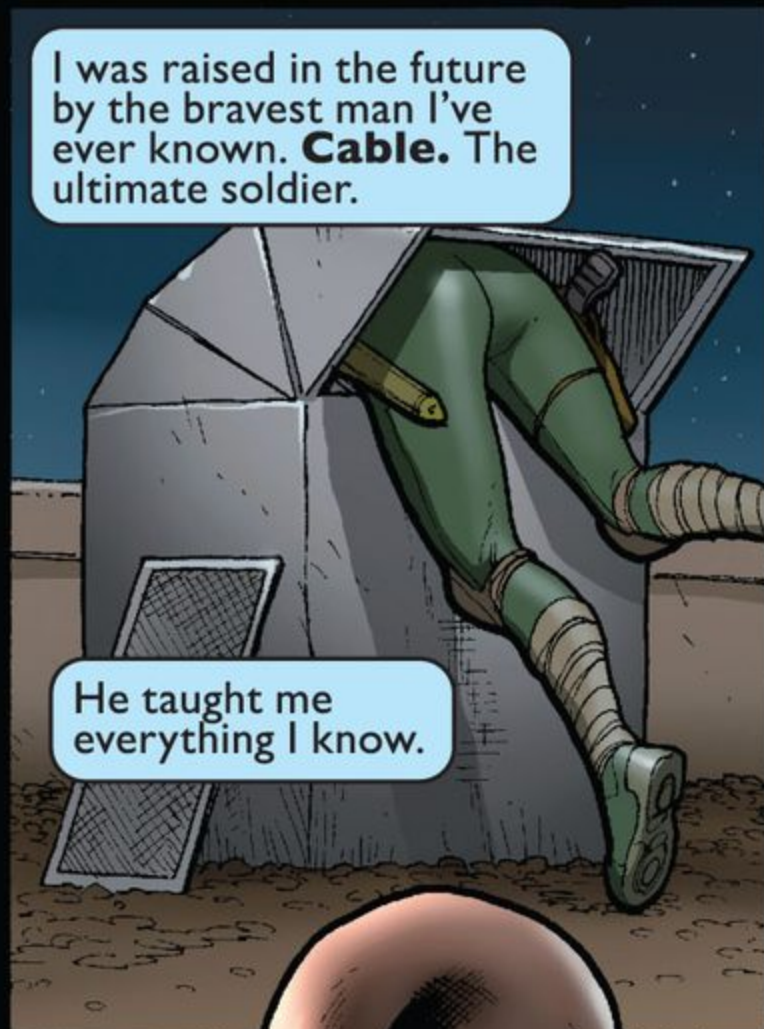
All I know is...



...I have to figure that part out for myself.

WE HAVE THE PLACE SURROUNDED! WE ARE READY TO HEAR YOUR DEMANDS! JUST DO NOT HURT THE HOSTAGES!





I was raised in the future by the bravest man I've ever known. **Cable.** The ultimate soldier.

He taught me everything I know.



Which is always **just** enough to get me into trouble.



WHOA.

AS A MUTANT, I SURE HATE TO JUDGE SOMEONE BASED SOLELY ON APPEARANCE...

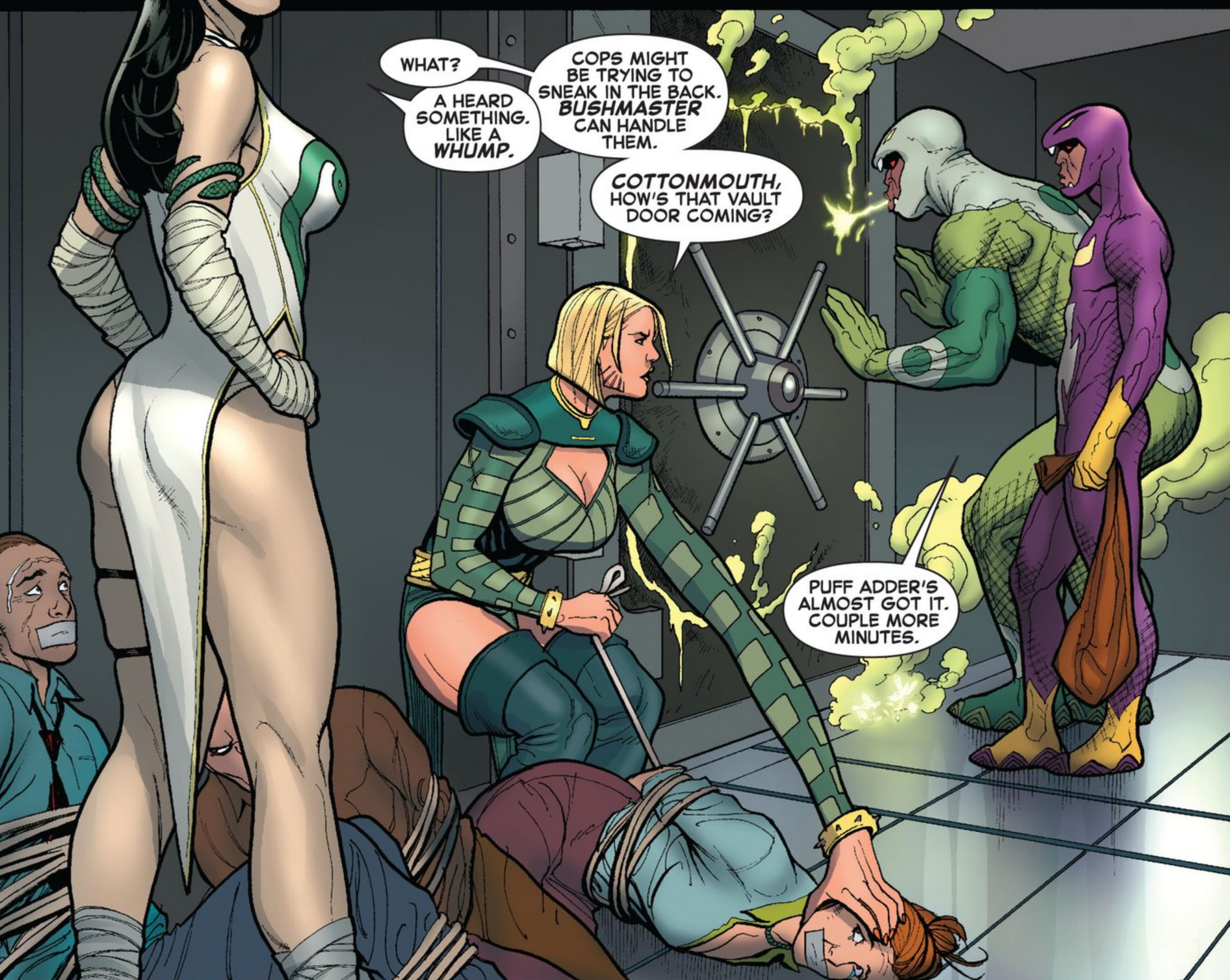


BUT SOMETHING TELLS ME YOU'RE ONE OF THE **BAD** GUYS.



WHUMP

WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?



WHAT?

A HEARD SOMETHING.
LIKE A WHUMP.

COPS MIGHT BE TRYING TO SNEAK IN THE BACK. **BUSHMASTER** CAN HANDLE THEM.

COTTONMOUTH, HOW'S THAT VAULT DOOR COMING?

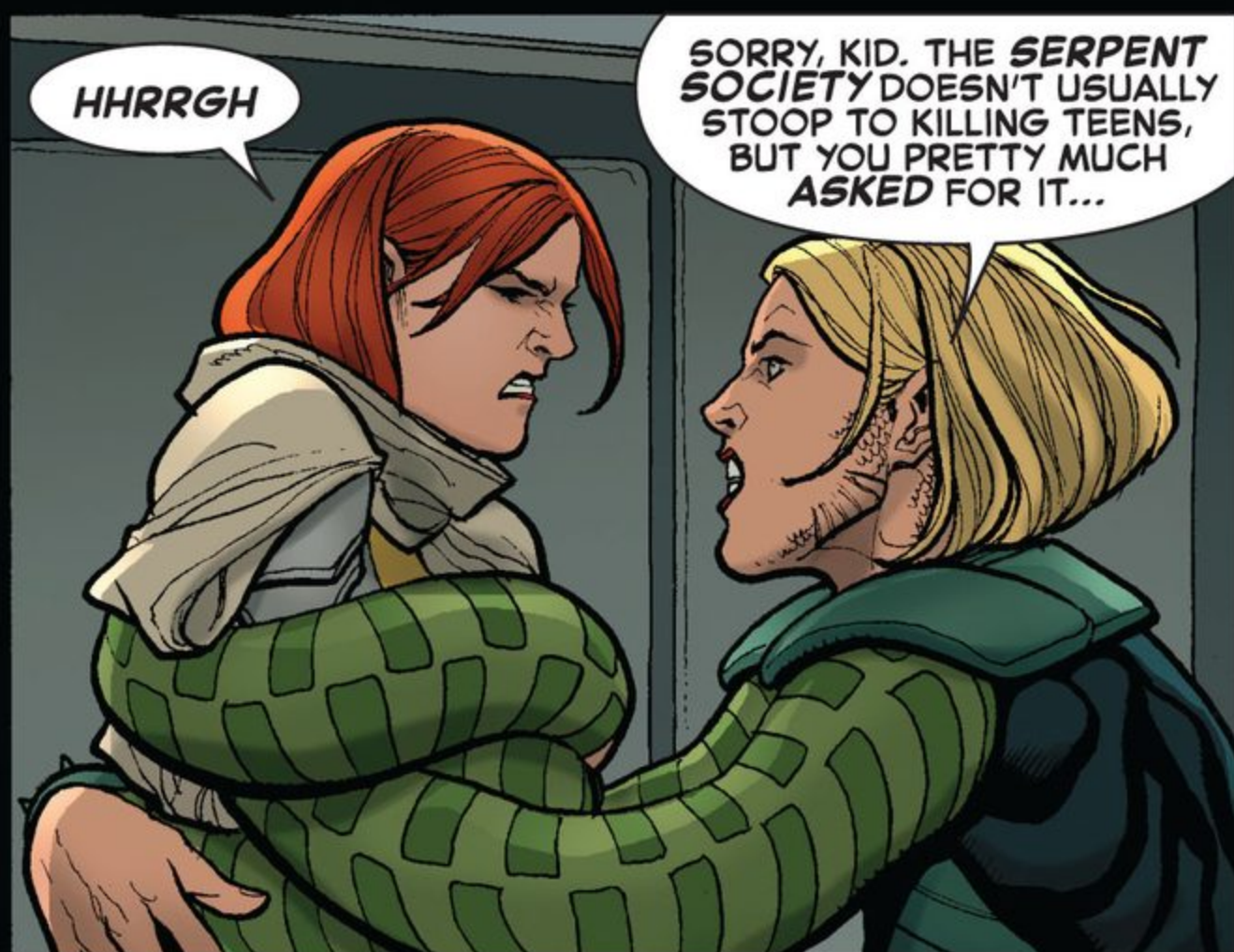
PUFF ADDER'S ALMOST GOT IT. COUPLE MORE MINUTES.



BUSHMASTER?

EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT BACK HERE?





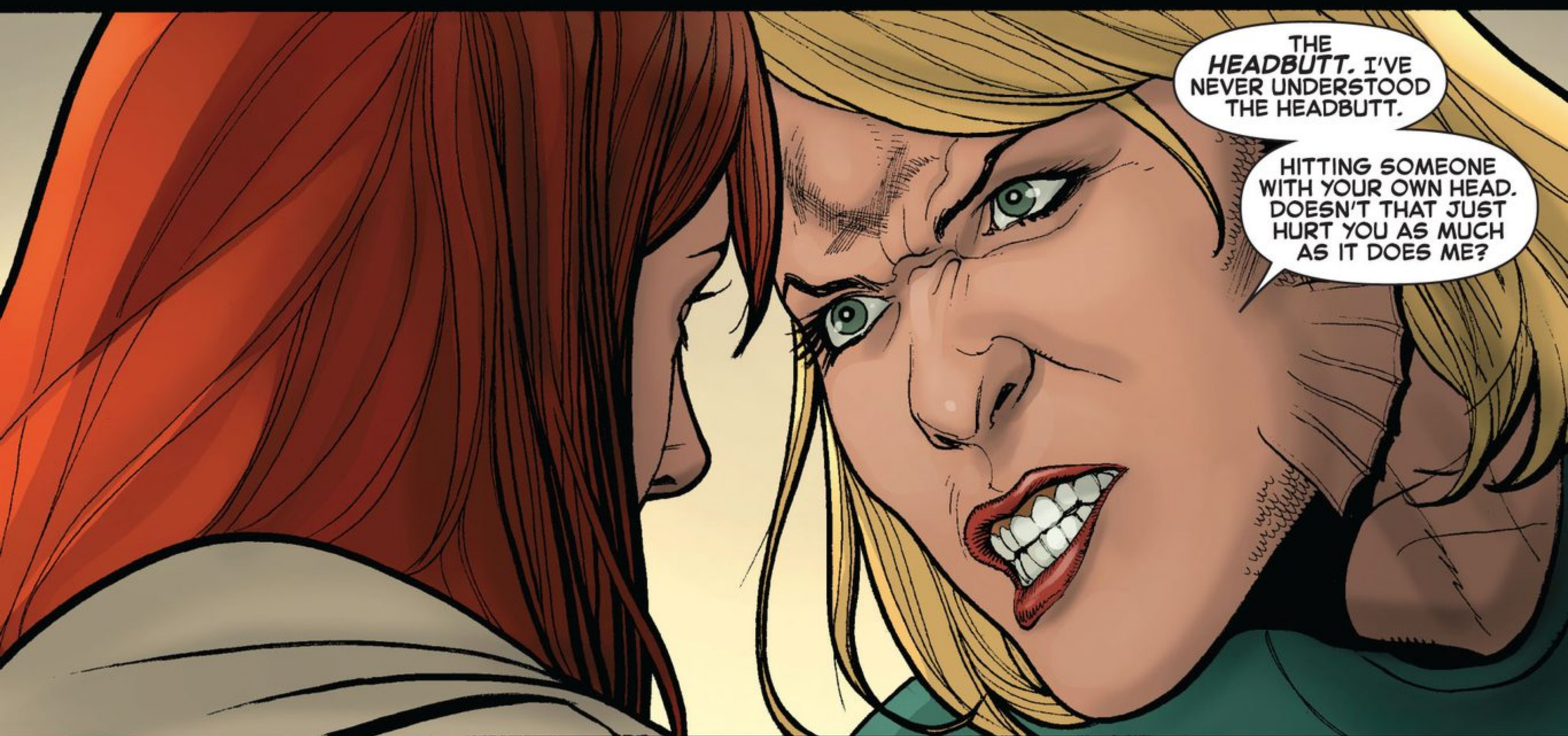
HRRGH

SORRY, KID. THE **SERPENT SOCIETY** DOESN'T USUALLY STOOP TO KILLING TEENS, BUT YOU PRETTY MUCH ASKED FOR IT...



WHACK

RRGH



THE **HEADBUTT**. I'VE NEVER UNDERSTOOD THE **HEADBUTT**.

HITTING SOMEONE WITH YOUR OWN HEAD. DOESN'T THAT JUST HURT YOU AS MUCH AS IT DOES ME?



WHACK

HEY! CUT IT--



WHACK

GAAH!



WHACK

UGHH



WHACK



NEXT.



PUFF
ADDER. SHE'S
ALL YOURS.



PUFF ADDER. I CAN SEE
WHY THEY CALL YOU THAT.
TELL ME SOMETHING,
PUFF...

YOU WOULDN'T
HAPPEN TO BE A
MUTANT, WOULD
YOU?

YEAH.
WHAT'S IT
TO YA?

WELL, SEE,
MY POWERS
ONLY WORK ON
MUTANTS.

YOUR
POWERS?
WHAT
POWERS?

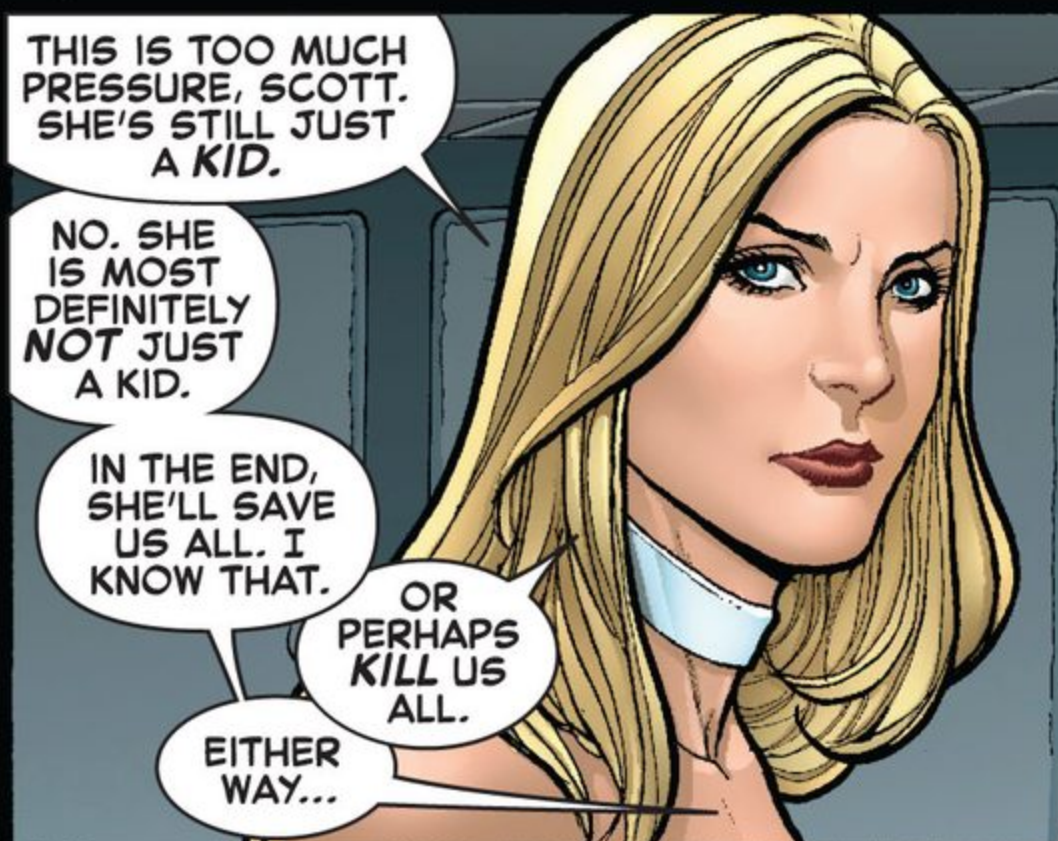
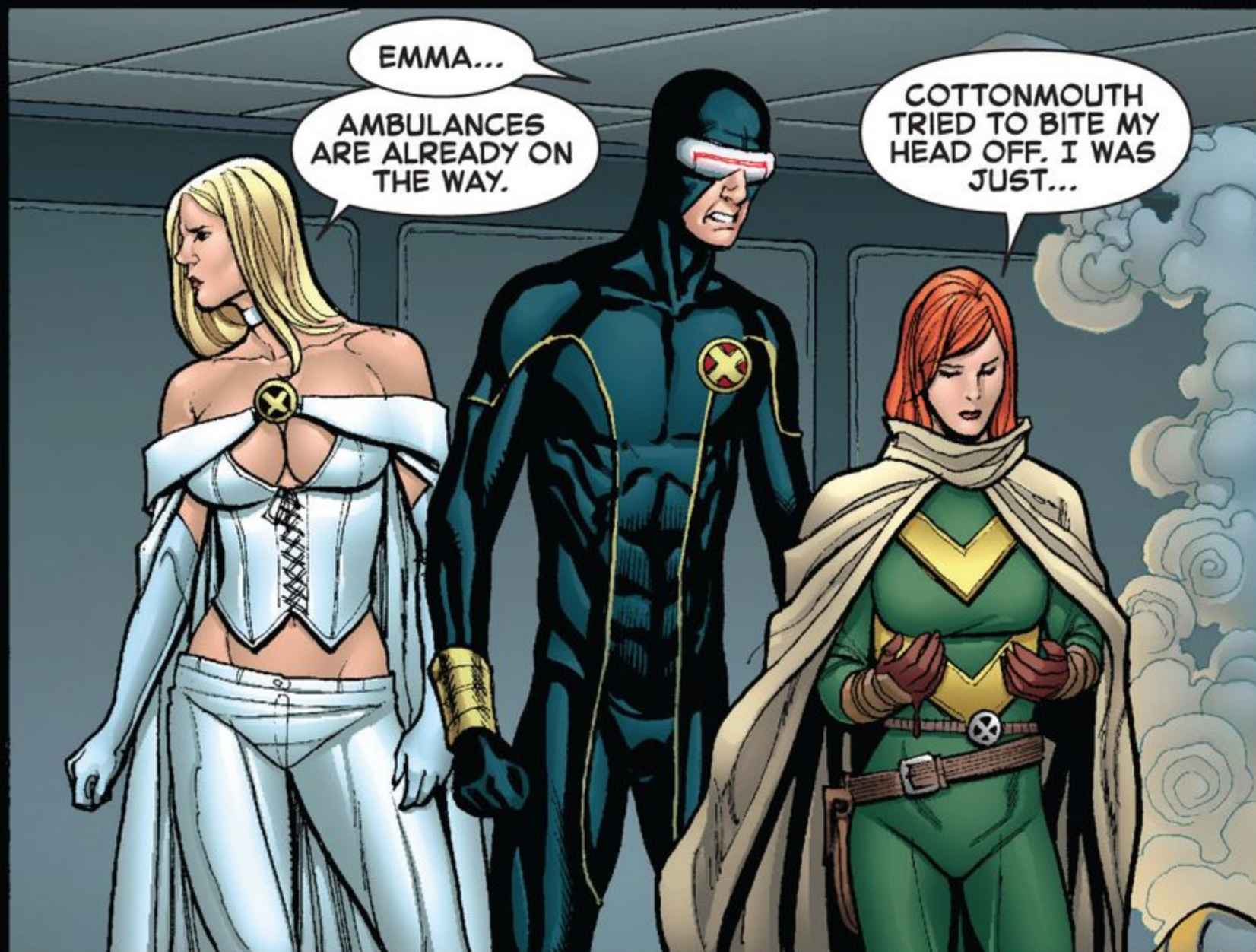
WHAT
THE...?
THAT'S
THE SAME
POWER I
GOT!



MAYBE
YOU'LL FIGURE
IT OUT AFTER
YOU WAKE
UP.

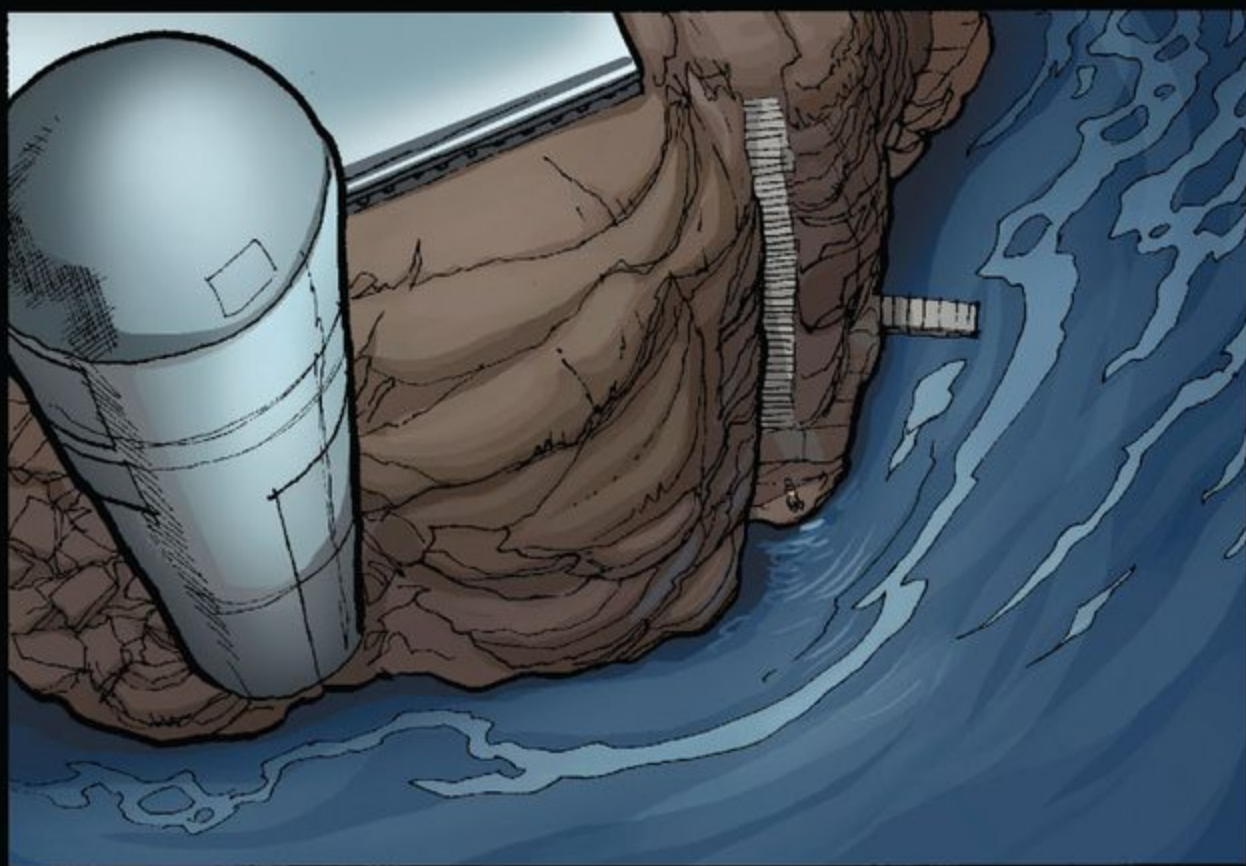
SHOOOM







"...THAT MAKES
HER SOMETHING
SPECIAL."





AVENGERS vs X-MEN

MARVEL

VS

ROUND 1



#AvX
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THE FIGHT BEGINS IN STORES & ON
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